

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for granting an interview on June 9, 2005. Based on the conversation at the interview, Applicant believes that an agreement has been reached with the Examiner that claim 1 overcomes the combination of Hans (U.S. Pat. No. 2,797,931) in view of Eckel (EP 972,966). Claims 1-12 are now pending in the application. Minor amendments have been made to the specification and claims to simply overcome the objections to the specification and rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

SPECIFICATION

The specification stands objected to for certain informalities. Applicant has amended the specification according to the Examiner's suggestions. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As a result of the interview with the Examiner on June 9, 2005, Applicant believes that claims 1-10 are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Specifically, Applicant notes that the specification specifically states that "the assembly is sufficiently stiff to support the stud 112 in the axial or longitudinal direction and in one radial or lateral direction, while the vibration isolation in the tuning direction can be

relatively soft to allow for proper vibration isolating effects." This language supports the limitation "said pair of elastomeric beam structures having a softer characteristic in a direction generally transverse to an axial direction than in the axial direction" stated in claim 1.

As such, Applicant believes that sufficient disclosure is provided in the specification for the limitations of claim 1. Therefore reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 1 stands objected to for certain informalities. Applicant has amended claim 1 according to the Examiner's suggestions. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hans (U.S. Pat. No. 2,797,931, hereinafter "Hans") in view of Eckel et al. (EP 972,966, hereinafter "Eckel").

At the outset, Applicant notes that an agreement is believed to have been reached with the Examiner providing for the allowance of claims 1-10. Specifically, the combination of Hans and Eckel does not teach or suggest the limitation of "said pair of elastomeric beam structures having a softer characteristic in a direction generally transverse to an axial direction than in the axial direction." As such, Applicant believes that the claims are currently in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

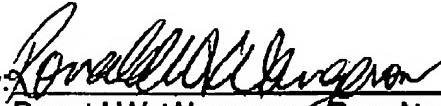
Claims 11 and 12 have been added to the application as new. These claims depend from claim 1 and should be in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above regarding claim 1.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (734) 354-5445.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: JUNE 23, 2005

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